

Nashville Union.

For Freedom and Nationality.

S. C. MEYER, Editor.

THURSDAY MORNING AUG. 21, 1862.

No Time for Conciliation.

The eagerness which some manifest for the conciliation of the rebels, proceeds, in some instances, from kindness of heart, but in many more, we suspect, from an unwillingness to undergo the hardships and privations of war. Heaven knows how glad—yes, how rejoiced we would be, if it were possible at this very moment to win over those who have risen against our country to their old obedience. But is this conciliation possible at present? We think not. On the contrary to attempt conciliation now would be most hazardous to ourselves. An armed foe threatens our lives, and if we lay down our weapons of war, and resort to reason, and argument, and entreaty, he will overpower us, while we are unarmed. It is absurd to think of conciliating an armed enemy. First conquer him if you can, and then when he is in your power it will be noble to show him that you desire his welfare and wish to be at peace with him. But to offer compromises now to the rebels is tantamount to a confession of weakness. No man of true loyalty will propose such a thing at the present time. It is worthy of notice, that all those journals and politicians which advocate conciliatory propositions, have been in the interest of the fire-eaters for years past, and were the apologists of the rebel leaders up to the very hour when they withdrew from Congress. Conciliate indeed. If a deadly serpent were about to spring upon your child, would you experiment with the reptile, by trying to soothe him, according to the art of the serpent charmers, or would you crush his head with a club? What?

Is this a time to jest and dally now?

Whenever we hear one of those wishy-washy, long-winded, solemn-eyed compromisers persuading the Government to snare the sword in peace, and send a commission composed of WICKLIFFE, CARLISLE, VALLANDIGHAM, DE OLDS, and DEBBAR MAGOWEN, to Richmond, to sing an Ode to Compromise, before JEFF DAVIS, we cannot help recalling the spirit words of the Etich Shepherd, on the subject of conciliation:

"No need of concessions—confound concessions—Whig and Tory may meet one another at the half-way house, and sit down to a Conciliation dinner—but as soon as the strong drink operates, the false friends will begin to glow, first suspiciously and then savagely, at one another—the cowards will egg on the crones to fight—with glib tongues will keep gabbling about principles and consistency—they'll be no longer in call to one another names—renegade, apostate, traitor, yuttra, and every thing else that's infamous and fearsome—till finally there's a battle-royal a cloutin of heads, and a beatin of bottoms; while the bars and benches are fleain' up and down, and no man sic is the call shangy rippet and stramash, can be sure whether he's knoeed down or no by a new friend or an old enemy fairly, by the clenched fist, or by some sharp instrument treacherously concealed in the palm of the hand—till the whole country-side scandalized at this nefarious behavior, rises up like one man, and kickin' the heterogeneous mass of inconsistent combatants out of doors, pull down out of every rage, the half-way house itself—alias the Conciliation, alias the Accommodation tavern. No levin so much as a single stone to tell where the clay-biggin stood."

This lively description of the old shepherd, is a faithful picture of the up-roar in which our compromise tinkers, and conciliation journeymen will be sure to plunge us. There is no manhood, no honesty, no principle, no justice, no sincerity—and therefore, no permanency in their flimsy plans of settlement, in which loyalty and rebellion, patriotism and treason, honest citizens and thieving guerrillas, loyalists and rebels, WASHINGTON'S and ANTONIO'S, ST. PETER'S and JUDAS'S, officers of justice and criminals, are all massed and imbedded together and placed on an equal footing, as entitled to the same privileges without distinction of persons. The idea is utterly preposterous. No right-minded man can tolerate it for an instant. We must put down the rebellion, and if the rebels refuse to submit and still shout to us defiantly that they will not be subjugated and obey the laws as we do, why then, they must find another country—they cannot stay among us. This is the land of the loyal. This is the home of those who obey the laws. This is a nation whose citizens recognize the right of the majority to rule. This is a republic whose foundation is the right of man to self-government. We and our fathers have lived happily under it for more than eighty years, and by all that is sacred and noble, we swear that we will not surrender it.

The rebels in Tennessee tell us that the Administration is making a war against slavery, and the commissioners they sent to Europe to beg for recognition declare most solemnly that it is not. At home they declare that Mr. LINCOLN is an abolitionist, while abroad they swear that he is a warm pro-slavery man.

Never was a cause so completely self-concocted and stultified as that of secession, which attempts to destroy a government which it admits to be faultless, and fights for rights which no one assails.

It is idle for a man who aids and comforts traitors to profess Unionism. The king of Judah did not sanctify the betrayal of his Master.

A French Statesman on the American Question.

COUNT AGENOR DE GASPARIN, an eminent French statesman has lately published a book on the principles at issue in our great civil war. He gives the following testimony on the perfidy of the Southern Commissioners in Europe:

"If the Southerners had not for a moment persuaded Europe that slavery was not in the question, they would never have exported the title of belligerent."

The rebels in Europe, says the Count, tell us that "Slavery is not in the question," at all. This assertion is confirmed by the declaration of Mr. YANCKEY to EARL RUSSELL, that Mr. LINCOLN was entitled to no sympathy from Great Britain because he was a "pro-slavery Administration." Now in the face of the declaration of an impartial French statesman, as to the assertions of the rebels in Europe, and of these rebels themselves so eminent as Mr. YANCKEY, Mr. RORT and Mr. MANE, is it not consummate impudence in rebels here to speak of this as an Abolition war, and to charge Mr. LINCOLN with plotting the death of Slavery, just because he is determined to save the Union from disruption? Mr. LINCOLN is ready to save the Republic, and let Slavery take care of itself, and if it perishes in the tumult of agitation, on their heads be the blame, who brought this infernal rebellion. Count GASPARIN speaks these words of encouragement to the friends of the Union:

"Danton said—Audacity, audacity, and again audacity! I say, willingly! Hope, hope, and again hope! This crisis, despite the suffering that it includes, will be the honor and consolation of our times. Never, perhaps, were matter and spirit so directly at strife; the question is a moral one; it is for America to know whether the Puritan element will win for the whole world to know whether liberty and justice will finally prevail."

"The whole world, I have just said is engaged in the contest. The uprising of this people upriser us also; this spectacle of sufferings nobly accepted do us good. We feel that one of those storms which purify the atmosphere is passing at this moment over the globe."

"Those over whom it passes have to suffer, but after the tempest comes fine weather, and, like that which, after having been dispersed by the storm, found itself entire in the smooth waters of Port Royal, America will seem, perhaps, almost to sink beneath the violence of the winds, until it attains the end. This is peace."

"No, the sixteenth President of the United States will not be the last; no, the eighty-fifth year of this people will not be the last; their flag will come out of battle pierced with bullets and blackened with powder, but more glorious than ever, without having let fall, as I hope, the single one of its thirty-four stars."

In closing his noble discourse on our country, Gasparin utters these oracular words:

"The chances of success appear to me great in the United States; but I ask the reader to render me this justice, that I have not waited to see them in order to believe in them. I believed in them because I believed in principles. I greeted from the first moment the uprising of a great people, because I saw from the first moment that this great people was undertaking a great thing—that it was fighting for justice and liberty. One always up rises in this vocation."

NEW GUY BOAT.—A correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial gives the following description of the new ram and gunboat Guy: She is 200 feet long, 41 feet beam, and 8½ feet hold. She has 4 boilers 32 feet long, 40 inches in diameter, with 2 engines 20½ inch cylinders, 8 feet stroke, working a single 28 foot diameter and 12 foot length of bucket. Her hull on the sides is 16 feet thick, plated with ¾ inch iron, 4 feet under water. Her casemates are made of gum timber—four inches thick, and plated on the sides with—iron. On the forward and aft casemates the iron is—four inches thick. Her spar deck or upper deck is made of heavy oak and plated with—iron. Her hull is entirely under the water. Her boilers are entirely under the water and casemated all around. On the front of the casemate of the boilers the iron is—four inches thick. Her wheel-houses are well protected by angular trunks plated above the shaft.

She has on her bow a mass of wrought iron, called a ram, weighing 5,700 pounds, and looks strong enough to knock anything afloat to pieces. Her battery consists of—long 32-pounders,—50-pounder Dahlgren, and—34-pounder Parrott guns aft, besides on her bow is to go a—pounder pivot gun.

The real weakness of the rebellion in this State is apparent from the greediness with which the starving Secessionists snap at every crumb of comfort that drops from the Union table. The burning of a railroad bridge, or the capture of a squad of pickets throws them into convulsions of delight, and gives them food for a week's talk. All these little misadventures are unpleasant, it is true, and we are heartily ashamed that they should ever occur, but it will soon be found that they will retard the operations of the Government hardly one moment. We will soon have one million of men in the field, or ready to take it at a moment's notice. Every State will soon send out an army of its own to the rebellious districts, which will sweep rebellion and rebels into nothing. The prospects of the Government were never so cheering as at present. Enlistments progress rapidly, public credit is excellent, and the people are more united and enthusiastic than ever. To resist the nation then is utterly idle. The rebellion has not now the faintest shadow of hope; it must cover and be crushed out beneath the awful might of an indignant people rising in their majesty to scourge treason, and save their government. Let us all then be hopeful, resolute and bold.

RAILROAD BUSINESS.—A Regiment to be composed of Railroad men is being organized in Chicago. A good idea.

Bitter Regrets.

Among the correspondence recently found on board of a captured rebel vessel was a letter from a prominent citizen of a Southern State to his wife who is sojourning at a distance from home. The writer of the letter had just returned from a visit of a week or two at Richmond, and was writing his wife what he saw there. The bitterness with which he condemns the rebellion and bewails the misery and desolation of his once happy and prosperous section of the Union is poured out with all the fervor of sincerity, and we doubt not that he expresses the feeling and hopes of thousands of others who, like him, dare not speak openly. The letter is dated the 30th ultimo. He says:

"This accursed attempt of one section to set up an independent government must sooner or later, fail and fail ignominiously. I am bound in duty to share in the burden, and to do what I may to alleviate the suffering which the attempt has brought upon those among whom I was born, but I will take no office in it—the highest would be no inducement—nor will I share in the terrible responsibility. No words can depict the horrors which I journeyed both at Richmond and upon my journey there and back. The deaths of thousands of prisoners, the fully clothed to one hundred and fifty a day. More than seventeen thousand sick and wounded are now in the Richmond hospitals. The recent seeming success of our arms will only serve to accelerate the downfall of our short-lived Confederacy."

The Louisville Journal remarks that the great sexangular plan of campaign announced on behalf of the rebels does not seem to awaken much apprehension in the North, though, as our readers will remember, one of the angles was particularly directed to the invasion of that region. A distinguished Northern contemporary is even so cool as to treat the gigantic plan facetiously. "We rather like this," he says, having copied the plan at length. "It is bold and dashing. It has the true Cambysean ring and rhythm. We don't wish to carp; but it occurs to us to ask whether Messrs. DAVIS & Co. are not undertaking a rather heavy summer's job? Wouldn't it be quite as well to divide the programme into two parts? Wouldn't it be safer as well as more discreet to defer at least some small portion of these Herculean labors until the dog days are over? Excessive exertion with the thermometer at ninety is not only difficult but hazardous."

"For our own part we are not sure an invasion of our territory by the rebels would not be about the very best thing that could happen to the Union cause. We are not sure we couldn't afford to pay them something handsome for luring a few thousand of their forces upon us, as it were, unawares. We want something like this to wake us up to a realizing sense of our peril. We need some powerful stimulant—some stimulant that shall so madden us that we will forget self in the country. The temper of the people is admirable; but the desperate character of the 'situation' needs to be brought home to our 'business and homes' with still greater emphasis."

"An invasion of the North is a favorite hobby with the rebel leaders. They may contemplate something of the kind on a small scale; but they will attempt no such scheme of colossal folly as that indicated above. They may harass our borders; but they will pause long before sending an army into our midst. They know that such an army would be inevitably doomed; that it would meet a terrible fire in front and a still more terrible fire in the rear. They know that they would precipitate the ruin that hangs suspended, like the sword of Damocles, over the neck of the bogus Confederacy." It seems very plain that these Northern people don't care worth a damn.

SACRIFICES OF AMERICAN WOMEN.—A good idea is advanced in the following from the McGregor Times. Speaking of a soldier who left his wife and child behind him he went to the war, it says: We will always concede the merit of patriotism and self-sacrifice to the man who leaves his home and business to save his country from the threatening peril; but we contend that the fond wife who relinquishes her husband, and with her babe accepts the troubled cares and utter loneliness of a three years' separation from him who is more than life to her, in all that goes to make up the sum of a patriotic heroism, is immeasurably above her companion. It is the time that the vast army of heroic self-sacrificing women of this land should receive a just recognition for the important part they enacted through this unhappy rebellion. There is one courage that goes to the battle-field; there is another which cheerfully yields everything in life worth living for upon the altar of their country.

A Memphis (July 25th) correspondent writes that the cargo of the ship which lately ran the blockade at Charleston, with coal furnished by a Yankee captain, was sold at public auction at Augusta, Ga. The ammunition and arms went to the Rebel Government at a good round price, and the domestic goods, being an assortment of such as are most needed by the rebels, were sold to traders and private individuals. The cargo is said to have cost \$200,000. It sold for over a million and a half, netting a handsome fortune to the speculators. Prices were immense. Fine felt hats sold for thirty-five dollars and fine boots for fifty dollars.

THE DIFFERENT PLANS.—Captain Davidson, of the rebel steamer Teaser, escaped with his men in small boats on the approach of the United States steamer Mustang. In his report, he makes the following remark: "Had the officer of the enemy's steamer been cool enough to order a fire of small arms on our boats, not a man would have escaped, as they were only a hundred and fifty yards from them." There are two things in this little sentence worth noting. One is the rebel plan of fighting, never to lose an opportunity of killing a Federal soldier. The other is the Union plan of fighting, to use such opportunities of killing rebels as little as possible.

Particulars of the Battle of Baton Rouge.

Decisive Federal Victory.

Capture and Destruction of the Arkansas.

John C. Breckinridge Wounded.

Gen. Lovell, Williams, and Allen Killed.

Reported Battle at Clarendon.

Defeat of the Rebels and Capture of 800 Prisoners.

New York, Aug. 18.—The steamer North Star and Roanoke, from New Orleans on the 10th, have arrived, bringing particulars of the defeat of the rebels at Baton Rouge and destruction of the Arkansas. Nim's battery lost its right arm by a cannon ball. The fight took place on the edge of the town, General Williams being unwilling to expose the women and children. We captured a large number of prisoners, including Capt. Phin, Breckinridge's aid. Gen. Williams, who was killed, behaved like a hero. The enemy's loss must have been severe. Our men charged and recharged upon them. We have taken 3 guns.

Another account says the rebel troops, estimated at 5,000 to 6,000, were under Generals Lovell and Breckinridge. The combat was obstinate. Our loss is 250 killed, including a large proportion of officers. The rebel loss, according to the prisoners' statements, is immense. Among the killed was Gen. Lovell. The ram Arkansas was just above Baton Rouge, but dared not take part in the fight.

Later accounts state that the Arkansas was aground when the Essex and other gunboats went to her and set her on fire, and she blew up.

The transport steamer Lewis White-man ran into the gunboat Onida, on the night of the 11th inst., and the transport sank. The body of Gen. Williams, with an escort of General Williams, with an escort of his body guard, also forty-two of ours, and three Confederates wounded. The body was recovered. Thirty-eight wounded and three of the body guard were saved.

The official report of Colonel Cahill, commenced after the death of General Williams, states that the rebel force consisted of about ten regiments. After a fight of four hours of great severity the enemy were repulsed. General Williams was killed by a rifle ball through the chest. During the battle our forces were obliged to retire about a quarter of a mile from their original position, and the enemy were able, temporarily, to occupy the camp of the 21st Indiana, 7th Vermont and 14th Maine regiments, and to destroy much of the baggage and camp equipment. They were, however, driven out, but our numbers being much lessened by sickness, and the men on the field being much exhausted by fatigue and heat, it was deemed expedient not to pursue.

The enemy has retired several miles and are still retreating. I am expecting it is possible that they may receive reinforcements, and am disposing of my troops in the strongest positions. Our force engaged was less than 2,500. The enemy had at least 5,000, with 12 or 14 field pieces, and some cavalry. The ram Arkansas approached with the intention of engaging our gun-boats, but grounded at a distance of six miles, and, to-day, the Arkansas was engaged by the Essex and destroyed. Brig. Gen. Clarke, and his Aid, Lieut. Yerger, delivered themselves to us as prisoners of war; I have also thirty captured. Breckinridge, on the 6th, asked permission, in writing, to hurry his dead. Col. Cahill replied: "Our men are engaged in the work which will soon be accomplished."

A passenger from Baton Rouge states our loss in killed at 70, and 215 wounded. Gen. Williams had three horses shot under him. He was killed whilst rallying the 21st Indiana, who had lost a field piece. The gun was retaken but Gen. Williams fell.

The wounded are about as follows: 21st Indiana 81, 14th Maine 70, 4th Wisconsin 10, 6th Michigan 25, 7th Vermont 15, 30th Massachusetts 12, 19th Connecticut 2.

Among the prisoners is Gen. Allen, of Mississippi, mortally wounded.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 17.—Colonel Corcoran says that General Prince, taken prisoner in the recent battle beyond Cape Fear, is kept in prison over a dead horse, and all the other officers captured from Pope's command are shamefully and tyrannically treated.

It is rumored that Corcoran will be made a Brigadier-General, and that Thurlow Weed sails for Europe on important service for the Government next week.

A private correspondent from London states that Mr. Sillid has arrived in that city, and already had several interviews with Mr. Mason for the purpose of deciding what was the best step to take to hasten the recognition of the Southern Confederacy, which seems to have been of late an object of great indifference to the English Cabinet. It is said the two rebels have agreed to address a note to all the European Cabinets demanding a recognition of the Southern Confederacy, and in the name of their legally asserted rights, of the rights upon which foreign nations have acted towards countries situated as the South is at the present time.

COLUMBIAN, Aug. 16.—The enemy appeared in force upon the south side of the Rapidan, yesterday. This morning at sunrise he drove in our pickets to within half a mile of Gen. Sigel's headquarters. Maj. Kreps, who occupies in front, mounted his battalion and advanced with two guns to meet the enemy. Although the enemy crossed with two regiments of cavalry and advanced boldly, he fell back precipitately upon the approach of Maj. Kreps to the south bank of the Rapidan, where he was supported by infantry and artillery. As Maj. Kreps approached the river, the enemy opened artillery upon him, and held him there. Both parties remain facing each other, and it is thought the passage of the Rapidan will be ultimately contested. In the skirmishing we lost one Lieutenant and five privates of the 1st Virginia cavalry.

New York, August 18.—Archibald Hughes delivered a most patriotic sermon yesterday in St. Patrick's Cathedral. After reciting his course of action in Europe, he called upon the whole North to come out in its strength, for volunteering to continue, and for a draft to be made. He said 30,000 men were not enough, that 300,000 more ought to be called out. The people should insist upon being drafted and so bring this unnatural strife to a close by the strength of might alone.

MEMPHIS, Aug. 15.—Reports from White River say that Gen. Hovey's division had a fight on Monday, near Clarendon, Arkansas. The Federal force consisted of six regiments of infantry, and the rebel force eight regiments of cavalry, and a part of Hildman's brigade. The battle raged fiercely for some time, with destructive effect on both sides, and resulted in the defeat of the rebels, and the capture of seven hundred prisoners. No further particulars.

Additional New Orleans news says that among the wounded is Lieut. Col. Keith, of the 21st Indiana.

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"The enemy lost three brigades in killed, wounded and taken prisoners, and many Coloreds and field officers." "He has more than one thousand killed and wounded. You have captured thirty pieces of artillery, six caissons, two stand of colors, and a large number of prisoners."

A letter from Baton Rouge states that the fight between the Essex and Arkansas was a fair stand-up fight.

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The funeral of General Williams took place at New Orleans on the 8th, and was very impressive.

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A letter from a surgeon reports that he saw eighty-three dead rebels in one small corn field at Baton Rouge. Lieut. Norcross, of the 30th Massachusetts, arose from a sick bed, joined his company in the thickest of the fight, and with his own hands, saved a field piece about to be taken.

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INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 17.—The news from Kentucky creates the most intense excitement here. Troops are being rushed forward with all possible speed. Governor Morton has induced Major-General Lewis Wallace and General Dumont, who are here on leave of absence, to take command temporarily of the new regiments.

Gen. T. A. Morris, Gen. J. J. Reynolds and Gen. Love also take command of new regiments. All the energy of the Executive Department is being put forth to save Kentucky from invasion.

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The Union Opposition has elected nearly every member of both branches of the Legislature by still greater majorities. Every candidate advocating a continuance of the war and a separation of the Union has been defeated.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 16.—On Thursday morning Col. Penick, with a detachment of men, attacked a camp of rebels just south of Barry. The loss of the rebels is not known. Col. Penick's loss is two killed and one wounded.

Two rebels who had been hauling supplies for the camp for a week or two and had stayed the day previous to Col. Penick that there was no camp in the neighborhood, were taken in arms, and having protection papers from Col. Penick upon their persons, were immediately hung.

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Additional New Orleans news says that among the wounded is Lieut. Col. Keith, of the 21st Indiana.

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"The enemy lost three brigades in killed, wounded and taken prisoners, and many Coloreds and field officers." "He has more than one thousand killed and wounded. You have captured thirty pieces of artillery, six caissons, two stand of colors, and a large number of prisoners."

A letter from Baton Rouge states that the fight between the Essex and Arkansas was a fair stand-up fight.

Porter lay 900 yards distant, pouring solid nine-inch shot into the Arkansas till a breach was made, when an incendiary shell was exploded in the breach, setting her on fire. The rebel crew left her and she soon exploded.

The funeral of General Williams took place at New Orleans on the 8th, and was very impressive.

Probably the Gen. Lovell reported killed is Col. Lovell, and not Gen. Mansfield Lovell, who is understood to be at Richmond.

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The rebel wounded state that General Ruggles was killed. A rebel stated their loss at 300.

Nim's battery saved the day, when two-thirds of its members were on the sick list.

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